Delay in appointment of a Judicial Member

7337. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing in the 'Indian Express' of 1st April, 1995 regarding Supreme Court's directives to Central Government relating to the appointment of a Judicial member to the Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto stating the steps taken by Government in the light of Supreme Court's directives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to adopt a new procedure for processing appointments to the posts of Judicial and Accountant Members in the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal in the light of the Supreme Court's directions.

Retirement age of High Court judges

7338. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward a legislation providing for the retirement age of the High Court judges at par with the Supreme Court judges; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In pursuance of a resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference held in December, 1993, the Chief Justice of India was to appoint a Committee consisting of three Judges of the High Courts to go into all questions relating to the conditions of service of Chief Justices and other Judges of the High Courts. The recommendations of the Committee are yet to be received by the Government.

Companies Located in Karnataka

7339. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreign companies as defined under Section 391 of the Companies Act are located in Karnataka;

(b) the names of such companies; and

(c) the names and location of companies which are incorporated at Pakistan, Bangladesh, UAE and Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) Section 391 of the Companies Act relates to "power to compromise or make arrangements with;, creditors and members" and not with' foreign companies.

However, Sec. 591 relates to companies incorporated outside India. 16 branches listed in Statement were registered in the state of Karnataka as on 31.3.95 *(see below).* None of these branches belong to companies incorporated in Pakistan, Bangladesh, UAE and Nepal.